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(54) Title: INFECTIOUS BURSAL DISEASE VIRUS RECOMBINANT POXVIRUS VACCINE

(57) Abstract

What is described is a recombinant poxvirus, such as fowlpox virus, containing foreign DNA from infectious bursal disease virus. What is also described is a vaccine containing the recombinant poxvirus for inducing an immunological response in a host animal inoculated with the vaccine.

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INFECTIOUS BURSAL DISEASE VIRUS RECOMBINANT POXVIRUS VACCINE CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part of copending application Serial No. 07/736,254 filed July 26, 1991, incorporated herein by reference. Reference is also made to copending application Serial No. 07/847,951, filed March 6, 1992, also incorporated herein by reference.

10 FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a modified poxvirus and to methods of making and using the same. More in particular, the invention relates to recombinant poxvirus, which virus expresses gene products of an infectious bursal disease virus (IBDV) gene, and to vaccines which provide protective immunity against IBDV infections.

Several publications are referenced in this application. Full citation to these documents is found at the end of the specification preceding the claims. These documents pertain to the field of this invention; and, each of the documents referenced in this application are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Vaccinia virus and more recently other poxviruses have been used for the insertion and expression of foreign genes. The basic technique of inserting foreign genes into live infectious poxvirus involves recombination between pox DNA sequences flanking a foreign genetic element in a donor plasmid and homologous sequences present in the rescuing poxvirus (Piccini et al., 1987).

Specifically, the recombinant poxviruses are constructed in two steps known in the art and analogous to the methods for creating synthetic recombinants of the vaccinia virus described in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,110,587, 4,769,330, 4,722,848, and 4,603,112; the disclosures of

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each of these patents is incorporated herein by reference. Reference is also made to copending application Serial No. 07/537,890, filed June 14, 1990, also incorporated herein by reference.

First, the DNA gene sequence to be inserted into the virus, particularly an open reading frame from a non-pox source, is placed into an E. coli plasmid construct into which DNA homologous to a section of DNA of the poxvirus has been inserted. Separately, the DNA gene sequence to be inserted is ligated to a promoter. The promoter-gene linkage is positioned in the plasmid construct so that the promoter-gene linkage is flanked on both ends by DNA homologous to a DNA sequence flanking a region of pox DNA containing a nonessential locus. 15 resulting plasmid construct is then amplified by growth within E. coli bacteria (Clewell, 1972) and isolated (Clewell et al., 1969; Sambrook et al., 1989).

Second, the isolated plasmid containing the DNA gene sequence to be inserted is transfected into a cell 20 culture, e.g. chick embryo fibroblasts, along with the poxvirus. Recombination between homologous pox DNA in the plasmid and the viral genome respectively gives a poxvirus modified by the presence, in a nonessential region of its genome, of foreign DNA sequences. "foreign" DNA designates exogenous DNA, particularly DNA 25 from a non-pox source, that codes for gene products not ordinarily produced by the genome into which the exogenous DNA is placed.

Genetic recombination is in general the 30 exchange of homologous sections of DNA between two strands of DNA. In certain viruses RNA may replace DNA. Homologous sections of nucleic acid are sections of nucleic acid (DNA or RNA) which have the same sequence of nucleotide bases.

Genetic recombination may take place naturally 35 during the replication or manufacture of new viral genomes within the infected host cell. Thus, genetic

recombination between viral genes may occur during the viral replication cycle that takes place in a host cell which is co-infected with two or more different viruses or other genetic constructs. A section of DNA from a first genome is used interchangeably in constructing the section of the genome of a second co-infecting virus in which the DNA is homologous with that of the first viral genome.

between sections of DNA in different genomes that are not perfectly homologous. If one such section is from a first genome homologous with a section of another genome except for the presence within the first section of, for example, a genetic marker or a gene coding for an antigenic determinant inserted into a portion of the homologous DNA, recombination can still take place and the products of that recombination are then detectable by the presence of that genetic marker or gene in the recombinant viral genome.

Successful expression of the inserted DNA genetic sequence by the modified infectious virus requires two conditions. First, the insertion must be into a nonessential region of the virus in order that the modified virus remain viable. The second condition for expression of inserted DNA is the presence of a promoter in the proper relationship to the inserted DNA. The promoter must be placed so that it is located upstream from the DNA sequence to be expressed.

The technology of generating vaccinia virus

recombinants has recently been extended to other members of the poxvirus family which have a more restricted host range. The avipox virus, fowlpox, has been engineered as a recombinant virus. This recombinant virus is described in PCT Publication No. W089/03429, also incorporated herein by reference.

Fowlpox virus (FPV) has advantageously been engineered as a vector expressing antigens from poultry

pathogens. The hemagglutinin protein of a virulent avian influenza virus was expressed in an FPV recombinant (Taylor et al., 1988). After inoculation of the recombinant into chickens and turkeys, an immune response 5 was induced which was protective against either a homologous or heterologous virulent influenza virus challenge (Taylor et al., 1988). In addition, the surface glycoproteins (fusion and hemagglutinin) of a virulent strain of Newcastle Disease Virus have been 10 expressed in an FPV vector and shown to induce a protective immune response (Taylor et al., 1990; Edbauer et al., 1990).

FPV is the prototypic virus of the Avipox genus of the Poxvirus family. The virus causes an economically 15 important disease of poultry which has been well controlled since the 1920's by the use of live attenuated vaccines. Replication of the avipox viruses is limited to avian species (Matthews, 1982) and there are no reports in the literature of the virus causing a 20 productive infection in any non-avian species including This host restriction provides an inherent safety barrier to transmission of the virus to other species and makes use of FPV as a vaccine vector in poultry an attractive proposition.

Infectious bursal disease, also known as Gumboro's disease, manifests itself in two ways. chickens older than three weeks, infectious bursal disease virus (IBDV) can cause impaired growth and mortality losses of up to 20% (Lukert and Hitchner, In younger birds, the disease is subclinical but 30 1984). is evident as microscopic lesions in the bursa of Fabricius (Winterfield et al., 1972). This results in prolonged and severe immunosuppression which causes increased susceptibility to disease and interferes with 35 vaccination programs against other disease agents (Allan et al., 1972). Characteristics of the disease have been

reviewed in Lukert and Saif (1991) and will be summarized briefly here.

The cloacal bursa appears to be the primary target organ of the virus and birds surgically 5 bursectomized at 4 weeks have been shown to survive a lethal IBDV challenge without clinical manifestations (Kaufer and Weis, 1980). The age of bursectomy is however, critical. Schat et al., (1981) performed embryonal bursectomy and then challenged with IBDV at 2 and 6 weeks of age. Birds developed typical hemorrhagic 10 lesions, were clinically ill and showed some mortality. The target cells are actively dividing B lymphocytes (Muller, 1986; Burkhardt and Muller, 1987). Muller (1986) demonstrated that IBDV will replicate preferentially in lymphoid cells from the bursa and poorly in lymphoid cells from other organs. It has been proposed that clinical signs of IBDV infection may result from immune complex formation (Ley et al., 1979; Skeeles et al., 1979). Muller (1986) however, demonstrated that 20 the preferential replication in the lymphoid cells of the bursa is not related to the presence of surface immunoglobulins.

Two serotypes of IBDV, designated 1 and 2 have been demonstrated (McFerran et al., 1980; Jackwood et al., 1984; McNulty and Saif, 1988). Virulent serotypes 25 have been shown in Group 1. No disease has been associated with group 2 viruses. In addition. considerable antigenic variation has been documented within serotypes (Lukert and Saif, 1991).

The causative agent, IBDV, has been classified as a Birnavirus (Brown et al., 1986). The biochemistry and replication of IBDV has been reviewed in Kibenge et al., (1988). Birnaviruses are small non-enveloped animal viruses having two segments of double-stranded RNA. 35 smaller genomic segment (segment B) of IBDV encodes a single polypeptide of 90k designated VP1. This protein is a minor internal component of the virion and is

presumed to be the viral RNA polymerase (Hudson et al., 1986; Nagy et al., 1987; Spies et al., 1987). The larger genomic segment (segment A) encodes 5 polypeptides with the following designations and approximate molecular weights 52k (VPX), 41k (VP2), 32k (VP3), 28k (VP4) and 16k (Azad et al., 1985). The identity and presence of the 16K polypeptide has not been confirmed (Kibenge et al., 1988). VP2, VP3 and VP4 arise by co-translational proteolytic cleavage of precursor polyproteins. The protein VP4 is thought to be a viral protease (Hudson et al., 1986) responsible for cleavage between VPX and VP4 (Duncan et al., 1987) and between VP4 and VP3 (Azad et al., 1987; Jagadish et al., 1988).

Protein VP2 is the most abundant protein of the 15 viral capsid making up 51% of serotype I IBDV proteins (Dobos et al., 1979). VP2 is only found in mature viral particles and is not seen in IBDV infected cells (Becht et al., 1988). VP2 is thought to be a specific cleavage product of a VPX precursor. Peptide mapping has shown 20 that VPX and VP2 of IBDV strain CU-1 have similar amino acid sequences (Muller and Becht, 1982; Dobos, 1979). addition both VPX and VP2 react with the same monoclonal antibody on Western blots (Fahey et al., 1985b; Becht et al., 1988). It has recently been demonstrated that a 25 conformational dependent neutralizing epitope exists on VP2 (Azad et al., 1987; Fahey et al., 1989) and a conformation independent neutralizing epitope exists on VP3 (Fahey et al., 1985 a,b). Antibodies to these epitopes were found to passively protect chickens (Fahey et al., 1985b; Azad et al., 1987; Fahey et al. 1989). 30 Becht et al., (1988) and Snyder et al., (1988) indicated that neutralizing monoclonal antibodies to VP2 differentiated between serotypes 1 and 2 in crossneutralization tests. However, Becht et al., (1988) also 35 indicated that monoclonal antibodies to VP3 recognized a group-specific antigen from both serotypes which was not associated with neutralizing activity or protection.

These studies may indicate the existence of multiple epitopes at least on VP2 and perhaps on VP3.

In a recent publication, Macreadie et al., (1990) demonstrated the expression of VP2 in a yeast 5 vector. The size of the expressed protein was consistent with that of an authentic VP2. Centrifugation and gel filtration studies indicated that the VP2 expressed in yeast was in a high molecular weight aggregated form. Chickens inoculated with a crude extract of the yeast expressed VP2 developed an immune response as 10 demonstrated by ELISA test and virus neutralization tests. One day old chickens were then inoculated with anti-sera from chickens previously inoculated with yeast expressed VP2. These chickens were passively protected against IBDV challenge as evidenced by lack of IBDV antigen in the bursa (Macreadie et al., 1990).

Current vaccination strategies against IBDV include both live and killed vaccines. Antibody transmitted from the hen via the yolk of the egg can 20 protect chickens against early infections with IBDV. Therefore, use of killed vaccines in oil emulsions to stimulate high levels of maternal antibody is extensive in the field (Lukert and Saif, 1991). Studies by Lucio and Hitchner (1979) and Baxendale and Lutticken (1981) indicated that oil emulsion IBDV vaccines can stimulate adequate maternal immunity to protect chickens for 4-6 In contrast progeny from breeders vaccinated with live vaccines are protected for only 1-3 weeks after hatching (Lukert and Saif, 1991).

Determination of when maternal antibody has 30 waned, and thus when antibody levels can be boosted by active immunization is problematical. It is therefore common practice to vaccinate all chicks against IBD with a live vaccine during the first 3 weeks of life (Winterfield et al., 1980). Inactivated vaccines are 35 ineffective in inducing active immunity in chicks with maternal antibody. Presently available live vaccines

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consist of strains of intermediate virulence or highly attenuated strains, as well as some cell culture adapted variant strains. While intermediate strains can break through maternal antibody titers of approximately 1:250 (Lukert and Saif, 1991), the strains vary in virulence and can induce bursal atrophy and immunosuppression in day old and 3 week old SPF chickens (Lukert and Mazariegos, 1985).

Given the limitations of current vaccination

strategies, it can be appreciated that provision of an

IBDV recombinant poxvirus, and of vaccines which provide

protective immunity against IBDV infections, would be a

highly desirable advance over the current state of

technology.

OBJECTS OF THE INVENTION

It is therefore an object of this invention to provide recombinant poxviruses, which viruses express gene products of IBDV, and to provide a method of making such recombinant poxviruses.

It is an additional object of this invention to provide for the cloning and expression of IBDV coding sequences, particularly sequences coding for IBDV structural proteins, in a poxvirus vector, particularly fowlpox virus.

It is another object of this invention to provide a vaccine which is capable of eliciting IBDV antibodies and protective immunity against IBDV infection.

These and other objects and advantages of the present invention will become more readily apparent after consideration of the following.

STATEMENT OF THE INVENTION

In one aspect, the present invention relates to a recombinant poxvirus containing therein a DNA sequence from IBDV in a nonessential region of the poxvirus genome. The poxvirus is advantageously an avipox virus, such as fowlpox virus.

According to the present invention, the recombinant poxvirus expresses gene products of the foreign IBDV gene. In particular, the foreign DNA codes for IBDV structural proteins. The IBDV gene may be coexpressed with other foreign genes in the host by the recombinant poxvirus.

In another aspect, the present invention relates to a vaccine for inducing an immunological response in a host animal inoculated with the vaccine, said vaccine including a carrier and a recombinant poxvirus containing, in a nonessential region thereof, DNA from IBDV. Advantageously, the DNA codes for and expresses IBDV structural proteins. The IBDV gene may be co-expressed with other foreign genes in the host. The poxvirus used in the vaccine according to the present invention is advantageously an avipox virus, such as fowlpox virus, referred to hereafter as TROVAC.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

A better understanding of the present invention 20 will be had by referring to the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 (SEQ ID NO:7) shows the nucleotide sequence of a 3661 base pair fragment of TROVAC DNA containing the F8 open reading frame; and

FIG. 2 (SEQ ID NO:12) shows the nucleotide sequence of a 3659 base pair fragment of TROVAC DNA containing the F8 open reading frame.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The invention is directed to recombinant

30 poxviruses containing therein a DNA sequence from IBDV in a nonessential region of the poxvirus genome. The recombinant poxviruses express gene products of the foreign IBDV gene. In particular, IBDV genes encoding IBDV structural proteins were isolated, characterized and inserted into TROVAC (FPV) recombinants.

Cell Lines and Virus Strains. The strain of FPV designated FP-1 has been previously described (Taylor

et al., 1988). It is an attenuated vaccine strain useful in vaccination of day old chickens. The parental virus strain Duvette was obtained in France as a fowlpox scab from a chicken. The virus was attenuated by

approximately 50 serial passages in chicken embryonated eggs followed by 25 passages on chicken embryo fibroblast (CEF) cells. This virus was obtained in September 1980 by Rhone Merieux, Lyon, France and a master viral seed established. Subsequently, the virus was subjected to four successive plaque purifications. One plaque isolate was further amplified in primary CEF cells, and a stock virus, designated as TROVAC, established.

cDNA clones from IBDV strain Faragher (Type I) were obtained from Rhone Merieux, Lyon, France.

15 Example 1 - CONSTRUCTION OF INSERTION VECTOR FOR IBDV-VP2

Plasmid pIBDVA contains a 3.1 Kb KpnI to XbaI fragment derived from cDNA clones of IBDV strain Faragher. This fragment was inserted into vector pBluescript II SK+ (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA). The insert corresponds to the segment A of the IBDV genome which encodes the 108 kDa precursor polyprotein. The polyprotein is subsequently processed to form VP2, VP3 and VP4.

In order to isolate the coding sequence for VP2 from pIBDVA, VP3 and VP4 coding sequences were deleted from pIBDVA and a termination codon added to the 3' end of the VP2 coding sequence. This was accomplished by digestion of pIBDVA with ScaI and KpnI and insertion of the annealed and kinased oligonucleotides CE279 (SEQ ID NO:1) and CE280 (SEQ ID NO:2) to form pCEN112.

ACTTCATGGAGGTGGCCGACCTCAACTCTCCCCTGAAGATTGCAGGAGCATT TGGCTTCAAAGACATAATCCGGGCTATAAGGAGGTGAGTCGACGGTAC

35 CE280

CGTCGACTCACCTCCTTATAGCCCGGATTATGTCTTTGAAGCCAAATGCTCC TGCAATCTTCAGGGGAGAGTTGAGGTCGGCCACCTCCATGAAGT The vaccinia virus H6 promoter previously described in Taylor et al., (1988); Guo et al., (1989), Perkus et al., (1989), was inserted into pCEN112 by digesting pCEN112 with NotI, and blunt-ending with the Klenow fragment of DNA polymerase, in the presence of 10 mM dNTPs. A HindIII to EcoRV fragment which contains the H6 promoter was blunt-ended with the Klenow fragment of DNA polymerase and inserted into the linearized pCEN112 to generate pCEN117.

In order to couple the promoter sequence with the initiating ATG of IBDV VP2 coding sequence, the annealed and kinased oligonucleotides CE277 (SEQ ID NO:3) and CE278 (SEQ ID NO:4) were inserted into pCEN117 that had been digested with Nrul and RSTII. The resulting plasmid was designated pCEN120. CE277

CGATATCATGACAAACCTGCAAGATCAAACCCAACAGATTGTTCCGTTCATA CGGAGCCTTCTGATGCCAACAACCG

CE278

20 GTCCGGTTGTTGGCATCAGAAGGCTCCGTATGAACGGAACAATCTGTTGGGT TTGATCTTGCAGGTTTGTCATGATATCG

A <u>Smal</u> to <u>Sal</u>I fragment from pCEN120, containing IBDV-VP2 linked to the vaccinia virus H6 promoter was cloned into the <u>Hpal</u> and <u>Sal</u>I sites of the FPV insertion vector pCEN100 (described below) to generate pCEN137. Plasmid pCEN137 was used in an *in vitro* recombination test to generate recombinant vFP115.

<u>Example 2 - CONSTRUCTION OF INSERTION VECTOR FOR IBDV VP2, VP3, VP4</u>

Non-coding sequence was removed from the 3' end of the IBDV polyprotein sequence by partially digesting pIBDVA with PpuMI, completely digesting with KpnI, and re-inserting the annealed and kinased oligonucleotides CE275 (SEQ ID NO:5) and CE276 (SEQ ID NO:6) into pIBDVA to generate pCEN111.

CE275: GACCTTGAGTGAGTCGACGGTAC

CE276: CGTCGACTCACTCAAG

A perfect 5' end to the polyprotein sequence was obtained in the following manner. A KpnI-BstEII fragment containing the majority of the polyprotein sequence with a perfect 3' end was excised from pCEN111 and ligated into the KpnI and BstEII sites of pCEN120. This substitution replaces the 3' end of the VP2 coding sequence and generates a perfect 5' end for the polyprotein with linkage to the vaccinia virus H6 promoter. The resulting plasmid was designated pCEN125.

10 The final insertion plasmid was constructed by partial digestion of pCEN125 with SmaI and complete digestion with SalI. The resulting fragment was cloned into the HpaI and SalI sites of pCEN100 (described below) to form pCEN138. Plasmid pCEN138 was used in an in vitro

15 recombination test to generate recombinant vFP116.

Example 3 - CONSTRUCTION OF FOWLPOX INSERTION PLASMID AT F8 LOCUS

Plasmid pRW731.15 contains a 10 Kbp <u>PvuII-PvuII</u> fragment cloned from TROVAC genomic DNA. The nucleotide sequence was determined on both strands for a 3661 bp <u>PvuII-Eco</u>RV fragment. This sequence is shown in Figure 1 (SEQ ID NO:7). The limits of an open reading frame designated in this laboratory as F8 were determined within this sequence.

25 Subsequently, the nucleotide sequence of Fig. 1
was further analyzed and was determined on both strands
to be a 3659 bp PvuII-EcoRV fragment. This sequence is
shown in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:12). The limits of the open
reading frame designated in this laboratory as F8 were
30 determined within this sequence; and, the subsequent
determination of the sequence, as shown in Fig. 2, does
not affect the reproducibility of this or any other
construction involving the fowlpox F8 locus determined by
this laboratory, especially because the deletions and
35 insertions into the F8 ORF can be performed by the
skilled artisan following the teachings from this
laboratory, such as the following description, without

recourse to the sequence of the F8 ORF or the PvuII-EcoRV fragment within which it is contained. Based on sequence information contained in Figure 2, the open reading frame is initiated at position 495 and terminates at position 1887. A deletion was engineered from what was ultimately determined to be position 779 to position 1926, as described below.

Plasmid pRW761 is a sub-clone of pRW731.15 containing a 2430 bp EcoRV-EcoRV fragment. Plasmid PRW761 was completely digested with XbaI and partially digested with SspI band was isolated and ligated with the annealed double-stranded oligonucleotides JCA017 (SEQ ID NO:8) and JCA018 (SEQ ID NO:9).

- 15 JCA017 5' CTAGACACTTTATGTTTTTAATATCCGGTCTTAAAAGCTTCCCGGG GGATCCTTATACGGGGAATAAT 3'
 - JCA018 5' ATTATTCCCCGTATAAGGATCCCCCGGGAAGCTTTTAAGACCGGATA
 TTAAAAAACATAAAGTGT 3'

The plasmid resulting from this ligation was 20 designated pJCA002.

Additional cloning sites were incorporated into pJCA002 by inserting the annealed and kinased oligonucleotides CE205 (SEQ ID NO:10) and CE206 (SEQ ID NO:11) into the BamHI and HindIII sites of pJCA002 to form pCE72.

CE205: GATCAGAAAAACTAGCTAGCTAGTACGTAGTTAACGTCGACCTGCAG
AAGCTTCTAGCTAGCTAGTTTTTAT

CE206: AGCTATAAAAACTAGCTAGCTAGAAGCTTCTGCAGGTCGACGTTAAC
TACGTACTAGCTAGCTAGTTTTTCT

- In order to increase the length of the FPV flanking arms in the insertion plasmid, plasmid pJCA021 was constructed. Plasmid pJCA021 was obtained by inserting a 4900bp PvuII-HindII fragment from pRW731.15 (described above) into the SmaI and HindII sites of
- pBluescript SK+ (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA). A <u>Bgl</u>II to <u>Eco</u>RI fragment from pCEN72 was then ligated into the <u>Bgl</u>II and <u>Eco</u>RI sites of pJCA021 to generate pCEN100.

Example 4 - DEVELOPMENT OF TROVAC-IBDV RECOMBINANTS

Plasmids pcEN137 and pcEN138 were transfected into TROVAC infected primary CEF cells by using the calcium phosphate precipitation method previously 5 described (Panicali and Paoletti, 1982; Piccini et al., 1987). Positive plaques were selected on the basis of hybridization to specific IBDV radiolabeled probes and subjected to five sequential rounds of plaque purification until a pure population was achieved. 10 representative plaque from each IVR was then amplified and the resulting TROVAC recombinants were designated vFP115 (IBDV-VP2) and vFP116 (IBDV-VP2, VP3, VP4).

Immunofluorescence. In order to determine where the IBDV proteins were localized in recombinant 15 infected CEF cells, immunofluorescence analysis was Indirect immunofluorescence was performed was performed. performed as described in Taylor et al., (1990) using a neutralizing monoclonal antibody preparation specific for VP2 and designated AC6 and and a VP3 specific monoclonal 20 antibody designated NA3 obtained from Rhone Merieux. addition, a polyclonal chicken anti-IBDV serum was obtained from Spafas Inc., Storrs, CT.

The results indicated that IBDV specific immunofluorescence could be detected in the cytoplasm of 25 cells infected with either vFP115 or vFP116. fluorescence was detected in parental TROVAC infected CEF cells. No surface fluorescence was detected in cells infected with either recombinant virus. results were obtained using both the neutralizing 30 monoclonal antibody preparation and the polyclonal immune The result was not unexpected since the analysis of the sequence of the IBDV genes does not indicate the presence of characteristic signal and anchor sequences which would direct insertion of the proteins in the infected cell membrane.

Immunoprecipitation. Immunoprecipitation reactions were performed as described in Taylor et al., • ;

(1990) using the monoclonal antibody preparations and the polyclonal anti-IBDV immune serum from chickens as described above.

Immunoprecipitation analysis of CEF cells

infected with recombinant vFP115 indicated the expression of a protein of approximately 38-40 Kd recognized by both polyclonal immune sera and the neutralizing monoclonal antibody. This size is appropriate for expression of the structural protein, VP2 (Azad et al., 1985).

- Immunoprecipitation analysis of lysates of cells infected with recombinant vFP116 encoding the IBDV polyprotein, with the same serological reagents, also demonstrated expression of a single protein species of approximately 43 kd. This protein is recognized by both polyclonal
- immune serum and the neutralizing monoclonal antibody preparation. Both the size of the protein and its recognition by the monoclonal antibody indicate that the identity of this protein may be VPX, the precursor to VP2. Although no other proteins are immunoprecipitated
- by the polyclonal immune serum, presence of the cleaved VPX indicates that VP4, the cleavage protein is probably expressed. Since VP4 is a very minor component of the virion, it is not unusual that the immune serum should not contain antibodies to this protein. Use of the VP3
- specific monoclonal antibody indicated the expression of a protein of 32 kd in cells infected with vFP116.

Example 5 - IMMUNIZATION OF CHICKENS AND SUBSEQUENT CHALLENGE

Groups of 20, 5 day old susceptible SPF

30 chickens were inoculated by subcutaneous injection in the nape of the neck with 0.2 ml of recombinants vFP115 or vFP116. This corresponded to a dose of approximately 4.0 log₁₀ TCID₅₀. A group of 19 birds were left as uninoculated controls. At fourteen days post

35 vaccination, chickens were bled and serum neutralizing

titers in the sera were determined. Birds were challenged at 14 days by intra-ocular inoculation of 0.03

ml of the virulent heterologous serotype I IBDV challenge strain (designated STC) supplied by the USDA National Veterinary Services Laboratory. Five days after challenge, each chicken was necropsied and the bursa examined for gross lesions and the appearance of atrophy. The results are shown in Table 1.

The results indicate that inoculation of one dose of vFP115 expressing the VP2 structural protein leads to the induction of serum neutralizing antibody and 10 75% protection of challenged birds. Inoculation of vFP116 leads to the induction of a poor neutralizing antibody response but 50% of challenged birds are protected.

TABLE 1. <u>Protective Efficacy of TROVAC-IBDV</u>

Recombinants in Chickens

Recombinant	#Protected/ Challenged ^b	% Protection	SN Titer ^a
vFP115	15/20	75	131
vFP116	10/19	53	6
Controls	0/19	0	0

a: Serum neutralization titer

25 b: Birds are considered protected in the absence of bursal atrophy and lesions.

Example 6 - IBDV RECOMBINANT POXVIRUS VACCINES

Recombinant poxviruses containing, in a nonessential region thereof, DNA from IBDV provide 30 advantages as vaccines for inducing an immunological response in a host animal. Infectious bursal disease virus is very stable and persists in the environment for long periods. For economic reasons, poultry houses are rarely cleaned between broods and thus chickens are exposed to the virus early in life. Since elimination of

virus by hygienic means is not possible, vaccination strategies need to be formed. Active immunization of

chickens is difficult in the presence of maternal antibody. In addition, since maternal antibody levels are variable and the rate of loss of antibody unpredictable, timing of vaccination is a problem. 5 successful vaccine will need to be able to boost immunity in the presence of maternal antibody and should also contain cross-reactive antigens from a number of different serotypes. In addition, an effective vaccine should not induce signs of disease in vaccinated birds.

TROVAC-IBDV recombinant vFP115 expressed the major structural protein VP2 which has been shown to contain at least one highly immunogenic region. protein expressed by the TROVAC recombinant is recognizable by IBDV immune serum. Inoculation of this 15 recombinant into susceptible birds resulted in 75% protection from bursal damage. Recombinant vFP116 contains the coding sequence for the polyprotein VP2, VP3, VP4. A protein probably corresponding to VPX, the VP2 precursor, was expressed which is also recognized by 20 IBDV immune sera. Inoculation of this recombinant into susceptible birds lead to the development of low neutralizing antibody levels, but induced 53% protection from bursal damage.

The results indicate the potential of TROVAC-IBDV recombinants for vaccination against IBDV in the 25 poultry industry. The restricted host range of FPV provides an inherent safety barrier to transmission of recombinant to non-vaccinated species. Use of antigenic regions of IBDV rather than whole virus eliminates the 30 need to introduce live virus to the environment and may lessen the immunological pressure on the virus which leads to the emergence of variant strains. The large size of the FPV genome allows incorporation of multiple antigenic sequences and should allow for vaccination against a variety of strains. 35

Example 7 FURTHER IMMUNOGENICITY AND EFFICACY STUDIES WITH VFP115

Effect of dose of inoculation on protective efficacy induced by vFP115. Groups of day old SPF chickens were inoculated with vFP115 by the subcutaneous route in the nape of the neck. The virus was 5 administered in doses of 4.9, 5.5 or 6.2 log₁₀ EID₅₀ per bird. At 21 days post-vaccination, ten vaccinates and ten naive birds were bled and the sera analyzed for the presence of IBDV specific serum neutralizing (SN) antibody. At 28 days, birds were challenged by 10 administration by the ocular route of 1.3 log₁₀ EID₅₀ of the heterologous Standard Challenge Strain of IBDV. At 5 days post-challenge, 5 birds from each group were necropsied and bursae examined for gross lesions. days post-challenge, the remaining birds were killed and 15 bursa to body weight ratios determined. The results of analysis are shown in Table 2. The results indicate that increasing the inoculation dose has led to the induction of slightly higher levels of SN antibody, but that the protective efficacy is not enhanced. Birds were 20 considered protected when the bursa to body weight ratio after challenge was greater than one standard deviation of the mean bursa to body weight ratio of infected control birds. Using this criteria, and considering bursa to body weight ratios of individual birds, 25 protection ratios of 65%, 74% and 64% were obtained for vFP115 dosages of 4.9, 5.5 and 6.2 log_{10} EID₅₀ respectively.

TABLE 2. <u>Dose Response Study of Inoculation of vFP115 in</u>

<u>Day Old Chickens</u>

5	Dose	SN GMT ^a	Bursal Lesions ^b Positive/Total	Bursa/Body Weight Ratio ^c
	4.9	13	1/5	3.5
	5.5	35	2/5	3.2
	6.2	102	1/5	3.2
10	Control	0	5/5	1.6

a: Geometric Mean Titer of sera of 10 birds

b: Bursa of 5 birds examined for gross lesions

c: Ratio expressed as a mean of 23 birds

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Effect of Age of Bird on Protective Efficacy of Groups of 30 one-, four-, seven- and fourteen day old SPF birds were inoculated by the subcutaneous route with 4.0 log₁₀ EID₅₀ of vFP115. At 21 days post-20 vaccination, 10 vaccinates and 5 naive controls of each group were bled and sera analyzed for the presence of SN antibody. At 28 days post-vaccination, all vaccinates and naive controls were challenged by the ocular route with 1.3 \log_{10} EID₅₀ of the heterologous STC virus strain. Four days post-challenge, birds were sacrificed and bursa examined for evidence of bursal damage. The results of analysis are shown in Table 3. The results indicate that while IBD specific SN titers and protection after challenge are obtained at one day of age, when vaccination is delayed past 4 days of age higher SN titers are obtained and the level of protection is increased.

TABLE 3. Effect of Age of Bird on Protective Efficacy of VFP115

Age	Treatment	GMT	Protection	ો ક
Group			Ratio	Protection
1 day	Vaccinates	126	23/30	77
· ·	Controls		0/10	0
4 days	Vaccinates	666	25/30	83
	Controls		0/10	0
7 days	Vaccinates	1946	29/30	97
	Controls		1/10	0
14 days	Vaccinates	1408	30/30	100
	Controls		0/10	0

Effect of route of inoculation on induction of a protective immune response by vFP115. Groups of twenty 14 day old SPF birds were inoculated by (a) the intramuscular route in the leg, (b) ocular route or (c) 20 oral route with 4.0 \log_{10} TCID₅₀ of vFP115. At 14 and 28 days post-inoculation sera were collected and analyzed for the presence of IBDV specific SN antibody. At both 14 and 28 days post-vaccination, groups of birds were challenged by ocular inoculation of 2.5 \log_{10} EID₅₀ of the 25 homologous Faragher strain of IBDV. Deaths were recorded and at 4 days post-challenge all birds were sacrificed and Bursa examined for the presence of macroscopic lesions. Significant neutralizing antibody responses were found only after inoculation of vFP115 by the 30 intramuscular route with SN titers of approximately 2.0 log10 at 14 and 28 days post-inoculation. By ocular and oral routes, low SN titers were achieved in 30 and 10% of chickens, respectively. The results of challenge are shown in Table 4. All birds inoculated with vFP115 by 35 the intramuscular route were fully protected from challenge which was pathogenic in all control nonvaccinated birds at 14 and 28 days post-inoculation. No

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protection was observed following the oral route of inoculation. Partial protection was seen by the ocular route.

TABLE 4. Effect of Route of Inoculation on Protective Efficacy Induced By vFP115

		·	
	Route of	% Protection	from challenge at
	Inoculation	14 days post-vacc.	28 days post-vacc
10	Intramuscular	100	100
	Ocular .	50	10
	Oral	0	0
			•

Example 8 DEVELOPMENT OF A TROVAC RECOMBINANT EXPRESSING THE VP3 STRUCTURAL PROTEIN

Example 2 describes the development of a TROVAC based recombinant vFP116 expressing the VP2, VP4, VP3 Efficacy studies described in Example 5 polyprotein. indicate that this recombinant induces lower levels of 20 protection than vFP115 expressing the VP2 protein after inoculation into susceptible chickens. In vitro studies showed that the VP2 protein expressed in the vFP116 construct is slightly larger than that expressed in the vFP115 construct and that expression of the VP3 protein is not detectable by a polyclonal serum.

Immunofluorescence and immunoprecipitation analysis with a VP3 specific monoclonal antibody, however, indicated that the VP3 protein is expressed in vFP116. In order to evaluate the role of the VP3 protein in eliciting cross-30 protective immunity, a single recombinant was developed expressing the VP3 protein from the Faragher strain of IBDV.

Construction of a Fowlpox Insertion Plasmid at the F16 Locus. The plasmid pFP23K (described by 35 Tartaglia et al., 1990) contains a 10.5 kb HindIII fragment from the fowlpox (FP) genome. A 7.3 kb NaeI\NdeI FP fragment was isolated from pFP23K and

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ligated to a similarly cut pUC9 vector to generate pRW866. A unique FspI site within this FP fragment lies between two ORFs (intergenic region) and is the F16 insertion locus.

In order to create a multiple cloning site 5 (MCS) cassette for the F16 locus, two PCR fragments were amplified from pFP23K using primers RW264 (SEQ ID NO:13) plus RW265 (SEQ ID NO:14) and RW266 (SEQ ID NO:15) plus RW267 (SEQ ID NO:16). The resulting fragments were mixed together and amplified with primers RW266 and RW267 which 10 resulted in a single, fused fragment. This fragment was digested with EcoRI and NdeI and ligated into similarly cut pRW715 (derived from pUC9 by digesting with PvuII and ligating an EcoRI linker between the two PvuII sites), to The MCS cassette consists of a polycloning 15 yield pRW864. region (SmaI-BamHI-HindIII sites) flanked on either side by translational stop codons in all six reading frames and a NotI site. A vaccinia early transcriptional stop signal is located on the HindIII end.

AATTAACCCGGGATCCAAGCTTCTAGCTAGCTAATTTTT 20 RW264: ATAGCGGCCGCTATAATCGTTAACTTATTAG

CTAGCTAGAAGCTTGGATCCCGGGTTAATTAATTAATAAAAA RW265: GCGGCCGCTTAAAGTAGAAAAATG

GTTACATATGTACAGAATCTGATCATAG RW266: GCTAGAATTCTCTTAGTTTTTATAGTTG RW267:

The following describes a series of plasmid constructs which ultimately leads to the MCS cassette from pRW864 being inserted into the FspI site of pRW866 to generate the F16 insertion plasmid (pRW873). A 30 cassette containing the E. coli lacZ gene coupled to the vaccinia 11K promoter was excised from pAM1BG as a BamHI/PstI fragment. Plasmid pAM1BG contains the lacZ BamHI fragment from pMC1871 (Casadaban et al., 1983) inserted in the previously described BamHI site 3' of the 11K vaccinia virus promoter (Paoletti et al., 1984). ends were repaired using Klenow polymerase and the

cassette ligated into pRW864 cut with SmaI to yield

pRW867A. The lacZ gene cassette was excised from pRW867A using NotI and the ends repaired with Klenow polymerase. This fragment was then ligated into the unique FspI site in the FP sequences of pRW866 resulting in pRW868. The lacZ gene from pRW868 was excised using NotI and replaced with the MCS cassette derived as a NotI fragment from pRW864 resulting in pRW873, the F16 insertion plasmid.

Development of an FP recombinant expressing

VP3. The complete IBDV VP3 ORF was excised from pCEN111

(described in Example 3) as a 1262 bp BamHI and Asp718

fragment and ligated into a similarly cut pSD554VC (a

vaccinia donor plasmid containing the H6 promoter) to

yield pFT1. A 112 bp PCR fragment was amplified from

pCEN111 using oligonucleotides JP003 (SEQ ID NO:17) and

JP004 (SEQ ID NO:18), digested with NruI/ScaI, and gel

purified. This fragment was ligated into pFT1 digested

completely with NruI and partially with ScaI to yield

pIBDV-VP3II. This plasmid contains the vaccinia H6

promoter coupled to the VP3 ORF.

- A PCR fragment was amplified from pRW823 which contains vaccinia virus H6 promoter sequences using oligonucleotides RG662 (SEQ ID NO:19) and RG663 (SEQ ID NO:20). This fragment was digested with <a href="https://hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/hindlink.com/h
- the same enzymes resulting in pF16VQH6. A cassette containing part of the H6 promoter fused to the VP3 ORF was excised from pIBDV-VP3II with Nrul/asp718, the ends repaired with Klenow polymerase, and the purified fragment ligated into pF16VQH6 cut with <a href="https://www.nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/nrul/smailto.com/
- 30 generate the donor plasmid pF16VP3F.
 - JP003 5'-AAGGTAGTACTGGCGTCC-3'
 - JP004 5'-TTATCGCGATATCCGTTAAGTTTGTATCGTAATATGTTCCCTCACA-ATCCACGA-3'
 - RG662 5'-TAAAAGCTTTTAATTAATTAGTCATC-3'
- 35 RG663 5'-TAACCCGGGCGATACAAACTTAACGG-3'

Plasmid pF16VP3F was used in *in vitro* recombination with TROVAC as the rescuing virus to derive

recombinant vFP186. Immunoprecipitation analysis using a VP3 specific monoclonal antibody has confirmed the expression of a protein of approximately 32 kd in CEF cells infected with the recombinant.

5 Example 9 - DEVELOPMENT OF TROVAC BASED RECOMBINANTS WITH ALTERED MODES OF EXPRESSION OF THE VP2 PROTEIN

It has been postulated that a protein displayed on the infected cell surface may lead to a more efficient 10 induction of neutralizing antibody than if the protein is secreted or expressed internally. Previous studies have indicated that expression of a foreign antigen on the infected cell surface by a recombinant vaccinia virus, can be achieved by recombinant DNA techniques by adding 15 appropriate signal and anchor sequences (Langford et al., 1986; Vijaya et al., 1988). The VP2 protein in IBDV infected cells is not a membrane bound glycoprotein and possesses neither an endogenous signal nor anchor sequences. A strategy was devised to add the appropriate 20 signal and anchor sequences from the Newcastle Disease The fusion protein is an integral Virus fusion protein. membrane bound glycoprotein. This strategy is described below.

The IBDV VP2 ORF plus translational stop codon

was excised from pCEN112 (described in Example 1) as an

XbaI/SalI fragment and the ends repaired using Klenow
polymerase. This cassette was ligated into the HincII
site of pUC18 to generate pCE147. The vaccinia H6
promoter coupled to the NDV fusion gene signal sequence

was obtained by isolating a HindIII/PstI fragment from
pCE64 (for complete NDV Fusion sequences see Taylor et
al., 1990). This fragment contains the H6 promoter fused
to the first 25 codons from the N-terminus of the NDV
fusion ORF. This fragment was ligated into pCE147 cut
with HindIII/PstI to yield pCEN150.

In order to couple the last codon from the NDV fusion signal sequence with the first codon from the VP2

ORF, a PCR fragment was amplified from pCEN150 using oligonucleotides CE329 (SEQ ID NO:21) and CE330 (SEQ ID NO:22) as primers. The fragment was digested with KpnI/RsrII and ligated into pCEN150 cut with the same enzymes to generate pCEN156. The H6 promoted-NDV fusion signal sequence-VP2 ORF cassette was excised from pCEN156 with HindIII/EcoRI, the ends repaired using Klenow polymerase, and the cassette ligated into pCEN100 (the F8 insertion plasmid) cut with HpaI to generate the donor plasmid pIBDV-VP2-SS.

CE329 5'-GATCCCGGTACCTCTAATGCTGATCATCCGAACCGCGCTGACACTG-AGCTGTACAAACCTGCAAGATCAAAC-3'

CE330 5'-GGACGCCGGTCCGGTTGTTGGCATC-3'

To add the NDV fusion transmembrane sequences
to the above plasmid, a 240 bp PCR fragment was amplified from pIBDV-VP2-SS using primers RG583 (SEQ ID NO:23) and RG590 (SEQ ID NO:24). This fragment contains 49 codons plus stop codon from the C-terminus of the NDV fusion ORF (see Taylor et al., 1990). The purified fragment was digested with Scal/BamHI and ligated into pIBDV-VP2-SS cut completely with BamHI and partially with Scal to generate the donor plasmid pIBDV-VP2-SSA.

RG583 5'-GTGAGTACTTCATGGAGGTGGCCGACCTCAACTCTCCCCTGAAGATTGCAGGAGCATTTGGCTTCAAAGACATAATCCGGGCTATAAGGAGGATCGTTTTAACTGTCATATC-3'

RG590 5'-TTAGGATCCTCATATTTTTGTAGTGGCTCTC-3'

In vitro recombination using plasmid pIBDV-VP2-SS and TROVAC as the rescuing virus generated recombinant vFP147. Expression analysis of this recombinant with both polyclonal immune serum and a VP2 specific monoclonal antibody indicated that the VP2 protein is expressed internally, and in addition is secreted into the tissue culture fluid. This result is in keeping with the addition of a signal sequence to the coding sequence of the VP2 protein. In vitro recombination using plasmid pIBDV-VP2-SSA and TROVAC as the rescuing virus generated recombinant vFP151. Expression analysis using both

polyclonal immune serum and the VP2 specific monoclonal antibody indicated that the VP2 protein is expressed at the infected cell surface as expected following the addition of an anchor sequence. The fact that the VP2 protein is still recognized by the monoclonal antibody in this form of presentation indicates that conformation of this particular epitope has not been altered by the manipulations.

Efficacy studies were performed by inoculating 10 day-old SPF chickens with 4.0 log10 TCID50 of each recombinant. At 28 days birds were challenged by ocular inoculation of the heterologous STC challenge strain. contrast to previous results obtained with the unmodified VP2 expressed in vFP115, no protection was obtained after 15 vaccination with either vFP147 or vFP151. Further in vitro studies using tunicamycin, an inhibitor of N-linked glycosylation, have indicated that the modified VP2 proteins expressed by both vFP147 and vFP151 are glycosylated whereas the unmodified VP2 expressed in 20 vFP115 is not. It is postulated that the addition of sugar moieties to the VP2 protein may alter conformation of the protein in areas apart from the neutralizing epitope. Alternatively, the addition of the signal and anchor sequences as constructed here, may alter In either case it appears 25 conformation of the protein. that the antibody induced by the modified constructions is not able to neutralize the heterologous challenge virus (STC). However, vFP147 and vFP151 and products therefrom are nonetheless useful. The modified VP2 30 expressed by these recombinants can be used as precursors to generate the VP2 protein; for example, by removal of the additional sugar moieties or to isolate secreted VP2 protein from tissue culture supernatant for further purification.

35 Example 10 - DEVELOPMENT OF POXVIRUS RECOMBINANTS

EXPRESSING THE VP2 PROTEIN FROM

HETEROLOGOUS STRAINS OF IBDV

IBDV strains show considerable variation in their ability to cross-neutralize. Sequence analysis of different strains has shown that one critical region involved in virus neutralization resides within a conformational epitope located on VP2. Sequence information for VP2 is available for the Faragher (Bayliss et al., 1990) and STC (Kibenge et al., 1990) strains and it has been determined that five amino acid differences between the two strains occur within the conformational epitope. A strategy was therefore devised to alter the coding sequence of the Faragher strain conformational epitope to conform with the sequence of the STC strain. This procedure is described below.

Mutagenesis of VP2 Faragher to VP2 STC. order to change the VP2 Faragher sequence in pCEN120 15 (described in Example 1) to the VP2 STC sequence, five codons were changed in the VP2 ORF using PCR site directed mutagenesis (see Kibenge et al., 1990 for STC sequence). Oligonucleotide primers RG677 (SEQ ID NO:25) plus RG678 (SEQ ID NO:26) and RG685 (SEQ ID NO:27) plus 20 RG686P (SEQ ID NO:28) were used to amplify a 530 bp and a 270 bp fragment respectively from pCEN100 (described in Example 3). The gel purified 270 bp fragment was further amplified using oligonucleotides RG702 (SEQ ID NO:29) and RG704 (SEQ ID NO:30). The 530 bp fragment was digested 25 with <u>SacI</u> and partially digested with <u>PstI</u>. fragment was digested with SacI and NcoI. These purified PCR amplified fragments, which contain the five STC codon changes, were ligated into pCEN120 cut with PstI and The resulting plasmid, pVP2-STC was confirmed by 30

RG677 5'-TACACACTGCAGAGCAATGGGAACCTCAAGTTCGATCAGATG-3'

RG678 5'-GAAACACGAGCTCTCCCCCAACGCTGAGGCTTGTGATAG-3'

DNA sequencing analysis.

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RG685 5'-GGAAGAGCTCGTGTTTCAAACAAGCGTCCAAGGCCTTGTACTGGGCGCCACCATCTACTTTATAGGCTTTGATGGGACTACGGTAATCACCAGAGCTGTAGCCGCAGATAATGGGCTGACGGCCGGCACCGACAATCTTATGCCATTCAATCTTG-3'

RG686P 5'-CCACCATGGATCGTCACTGCTAGGCTCCCACTTGCCGACCATGAC-ATCTGATCCCCTGCCTGACCACCACTTTTGGAGGTCACTACCTCC-ACAAGATTGAATGGCATAAG-3'

5'-GGGAGAGCTCGTGTTTCAAACAAGCG-3' RG702 5

RG704 5'-CCACCATGGATCGTCACTGC-3'

Construction of the new F8 insertion plasmid. In order to remove all of F8 coding sequences from the original F8 insertion plasmid (pCEN100), a new F8 insertion plasmid was constructed. pJCA021 contains a 4900 bp PvuII/HincII fragment from TROVAC which includes the F8 gene and flanking sequences. A 4.2 kb NciI/PpuMI fragment was isolated from this plasmid and the ends repaired with Klenow polymerase. This fragment was 15 ligated into pBluescript SK+ cut with XbaI/Asp718 and repaired with Klenow polymerase to yield pIY.

The strategy to delete the F8 ORF from pIY and replace it with a multiple cloning site (MCS) used PCR amplification of two fragments from pJCA021 with oligonucleotide primers containing the multiple cloning 20 sequences. A 335 bp fragment was amplified from pJCA021 using oligonucleotides RG714 (SEQ ID NO:31) and RG715 (SEQ ID NO:32) and digested with HindIII and EcoRI. Similarly, a 465 bp fragment was amplified from pJCA021 using oligonucleotides RG716 (SEQ ID NO:33) and RG717 25 (SEO ID NO:34) and digested with HindIII and BglII. two PCR fragments were ligated into pIY cut with EcoRI and BglII in a three fragment ligation resulting in pF8. This plasmid is the new F8 insertion plasmid which contains a MCS consisting of SmaI, NruI, HindIII, BamHI 30 and XhoI sites flanked by vaccinia early transcriptional stop signals and translational stops in all six frames. The length of the left arm is about 1430 bp and the length of the right arm is about 1380 bp. The F8 gene ORF which initiates at nucleotide position 495 and 35 terminates at nucleotide position 1887 (Figure 2) is completely deleted.

- RG714 5'-AACATATTTCCGAACAG-3'
- RG715 5'-TCCAAGCTTTCGCGACCCGGGTTTTTATTAGCTAATTAGCAATAT-AGATTCAATATG-3'
- RG716 5'-ATCAAGCTTGGATCCCTCGAGTTTTTTTTTGACTAGTTAATCATAAGATAAATAATATACAGC-3'
 - RG717 5'-GATATAGAAGATACCAG-3'

Construction of donor plasmids and recombinants
expressing VP2 STC. A cassette containing the H6
promoted VP2 (STC) ORF was excised as a 1.5 kb SmaI
10 Asp718 fragment from pVP2-STC. The ends were repaired
using Klenow polymerase and ligated into pF8 cut with
SmaI to generate the pF8-STC donor plasmid.

Plasmid pF8-STC was used in in vitro recombination with TROVAC as the rescuing virus to

15 generate recombinant vFP209. Expression analysis of the recombinants using a polyclonal IBDV serum from chicken indicated that the VP2 protein is expressed internally in CEF cells infected by the recombinant.

SEQUENCE LISTING

- (i) APPLICANT: Virogenetics Corporation
- (ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: Infectious Bursal Disease Virus Recombinant Poxvirus Vaccine
- (iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 34
- (iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:
 - (A) ADDRESSEE: Curtis, Morris & Safford c\o William S. Frommer
 - (B) STREET: 530 Fifth Avenue
 - (C) CITY: New York
 - (D) STATE: New York
 - (E) COUNTRY: USA
 - (F) ZIP: 10036
- (V) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
 - (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
 - (B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
 - (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
 - (D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.25
- (vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:
 - (A) APPLICATION NUMBER:
 - (B) FILING DATE: 22-JUL-1992
 - (C) CLASSIFICATION:
- (viii) ATTORNEY/AGENT INFORMATION:
 - (A) NAME: Frommer, William S.
 - (B) REGISTRATION NUMBER: 25,506
 - (C) REFERENCE/DOCKET NUMBER: 454310-2441
 - (ix) TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION:
 - (A) TELEPHONE: (212) 840-3333
 - (B) TELEFAX: (212) 840-0712
- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 100 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

ACTICATGGA GGTGGCCGAC CTCAACTCTC CCCTGAAGAT TGCAGGAGCA TTTGGCTTCA

60

AAGACATAAT CCGGGCTATA AGGAGGTGAG TCGACGGTAC

100

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 96 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(X1) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:	
CGTCGACTCA CCTCCTTATA GCCCGGATTA TGTCTTTGAA GCCAAATGCT CCTGCAATCT	60
TCAGGGGAGA GTTGAGGTCG GCCACCTCCA TGAAGT	96
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 77 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:	
CGATATCATG ACAAACCTGC AAGATCAAAC CCAACAGATT GTTCCGTTCA TACGGAGCCT	60
TCTGATGCCA ACAACCG	77
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4:	
 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 80 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear 	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:	
GTCCGGTTGT TGGCATCAGA AGGCTCCGTA TGAACGGAAC AATCTGTTGG GTTTGATCTT	60
GCAGGTTTGT CATGATATCG	80
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:5:	
 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 23 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear 	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:	
GACCTTGAGT GAGTCGACGG TAC	23
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:6:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 16 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:6:	
CGTCGACTCA CTCAAG	3.0
/2) INFORMATION FOR SEC ID NO. 7.	16

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 3661 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:

GATATCTGTG GTCTATATAT ACTACACCCT ACCGATATTA ACCAACGAGT TTCTCACAAG 60 AAAACTTGTT TAGTAGATAG AGATTCTTTG ATTGTGTTTA AAAGAAGTAC CAGTAAAAAG 120 TGTGGCATAT GCATAGAAGA AATAAACAAA AAACATATTT CCGAACAGTA TTTTGGAATT 180 CTCCCAAGTT GTAAACATAT TTTTTGCCTA TCATGTATAA GACGTTGGGC AGATACTACC 240 AGAAATACAG ATACTGAAAA TACGTGTCCT GAATGTAGAA TAGTTTTTCC TTTCATAATA 300 CCCAGTAGGT ATTGGATAGA TAATAAATAT GATAAAAAA TATTATATAA TAGATATAAG 360 ARANTGATTT TTACAAAAAT AACCTATAAG AACAATAAAA ATATAATTAC ATTTACGGAA 420 AATAGCTGGT TTTAGTTTAC CAACTTAGAG TAATTATCAT ATTGAATCTA TATTGTTTTT 480 TAGTTATATA AAAACATGAT TAGCCCCCAA TCGGATGAAA ATATAAAAGA TGTTGAGAAT 540 TTCGAATACA ACAAAAAGAG GAATCGTACG TTGTCCATAT CCAAACATAT AAATAAAAAT 600 TCAAAAGTAG TATTATACTG GATGTTTAGA GATCAACGTG TACAAGATAA TTGGGCTTTA 660 ATTTACGCAC AACGATTAGC GTTAAAACTC AAAATACCTC TAAGAATATG CTTTTGTGTC 720 GTGCCAAAAT TTCACACTAC TACTTCTAGT ACACTTTATG TTTTTAATAT CCGGTCTTAA 780 AGAAGTCGCG GAAGAATGTA AAAGACTATG TATAGGGTTT TCATTGATAT ATGGCGTACC 840 900 AAAAGTAATA ATTCCGTGTA TAGTAAAAAA ATACAGAGTC GGAGTAATCA TAACGGATTT CTTTCCATTA CGTGTTCCCG AAAGATTAAT GAAACAGACT GTAATATCTC TTCCAGATAA 960 CATACCTTTT ATACAAGTAG ACGCTCATAA TATAGTACCT TGTTGGGAAG CTTCTGATAA 1020 1080 AGAAGAATAC GGTGCACGAA CTTTAAGAAA AAAGATATTT GATAAATTAT ATGAATATAT GACAGAATTT CCTGTTGTTC GTAAACATCC ATACGGTCCA TTTTCTATAT CTATTGCAAA 1140 ACCCAAAAAT ATATCATTAG ACAAGACGGT ATTACCCGTA AAATGGGCAA CGCCTGGAAC 1200 AAAAGCTGGA ATAATTGTTT TAAAAGAATT TATAAAAAAC AGATTACCGT CATACGACGC 1260 GGATCATAAC AATCCTACGT GTGACGCTTT GAGTAACTTA TCTCCGTGGC TACATTTTGG 1320 TCATGTATCC GCACAACGTG TTGCCTTAGA AGTATTAAAA TGTATACGAG AAAGCAAAAA 1380 AAACGTTGAA ACGTTTATAG ATGAAATAAT TGTAAGAAGA GAACTATCGG ATAATTTTTG 1440 TTACTATAAC AAACATTATG ATAGTATCCA GTCTACTCAT TCATGGGTTA GAAAAACATT 1500 AGAAGATCAC ATTAATGATC CTAGAAAGTA TATATATTCC ATTAAACAAC TCGAAAAAGC 1560 GGAAACTCAT GATCCTCTAT GGAACGCGTC ACAAATGCAG ATGGTGAGAG AAGGAAAAAT 1620 GCATAGTTTT TTACGAATGT ATTGGGCTAA GAAGATACTT GAATGGACTA GAACACCTGA 1680 AGACGCTTTG AGTTATAGTA TCTATTTGAA CAACAAGTAC GAACTAGACG GCACGGATCC 1740

TAACGGATAC	C GTAGGTTGTA	TGTGGTCTAT	TTGCGGATTA	CACGATAGAG	CGTGGAAAGC	1800
AAGACCGATA	TTTGGAAAGA	TAAGATATAT	GAATTATGAG	AGTTCTAAGA	AGAAATTTGA	1860
TGTTGCTGT	TTTATACAGA	AATACAATTA	AGATAAATAA	TATACAGCAT	TGTAACCATC	1920
GTCATCCGTT	ATACGGGGAA	TAATATTACC	ATACAGTATT	ATTAAATTTI	CTTACGAAGA	1980
ATATAGATCO	GTATTTATCG	TTAGTTTATT	TTACATTTAT	TAATTAAACA	TGTCTACTAT	2040
TACCTGTTAT	GGAAATGACA	AATTTAGTTA	TATAATTTAT	GATAAAATTA	AGATAATAAT	2100
AATGAAATCA	AATAATTATG	TAAATGCTAC	TAGATTATGT	GAATTACGAG	GAAGAAAGTT	2160
TACGAACTGG	AAAAAAATTAA	GTGAATCTAA	AATATTAGTC	GATAATGTAA	AAAAAATAAA	2220
TGATAAAACT	AACCAGTTAA	AAACGGATAT	GATTATATAC	GTTAAGGATA	TTGATCATAA	2280
AGGAAGAGAT	ACTTGCGGTT	ACTATGTACA	CCAAGATCTG	GTATCTTCTA	TATCAAATTG	2340
GATATCTCCG	TTATTCGCCG	TTAAGGTAAA	TAAAATTATT	AACTATTATA	TATGTAATGA	2400
ATATGATATA	CGACTTAGCG	AAATGGAATC	TGATATGACA	GAAGTAATAG	ATGTAGTTGA	2460
TAAATTAGTA	GGAGGATACA	ATGATGAAAT	AGCAGAAATA	ATATATTTGT	TTAATAAATT	2520
TATAGAAAAA	TATATTGCTA	ACATATCGTT	ATCAACTGAA	TTATCTAGTA	TATTAAATAA	2580
TTTTATAAAT	TTTATAAATT	TTAATAAAA	ATACAATAAC	GACATAAAGA	TATTTAATCT	2640
TTAATTCTTG	ATCTGAAAAA	CACATCTATA	AAACTAGATA	AAAAGTTATT	CGATAAAGAT	2700
AATAATGAAT	CGAACGATGA	AAAATTGGAA	ACAGAAGTTG	ATAAGCTAAT	TTTTTTCATC	2760
TAAATAGTAT	TATTTTATTG	AAGTACGAAG	TTTTACGTTA	GATAAATAAT	AAAGGTCGAT	2820
TTTTACTTTG	TTAAATATCA	AATATGTCAT	TATCTGATAA	AGATACAAAA	ACACACGGTG	2880
ATTATCAACC	ATCTAACGAA	CAGATATTAC	AAAAAATACG	TCGGACTATG	GAAAACGAAG	2940
CTGATAGCCT	CAATAGAAGA	AGCATTAAAG	AAATTGTTGT	AGATGTTATG	AAGAATTGGG	3000
ATCATCCTCA	ACGAAGAAAT	AGATAAAGTT	CTAAACTGGA	AAAATGATAC	ATTAAACGAT	3060
TTAGATCATC	TAAATACAGA	TGATAATATT	AAGGAAATCA	TACAATGTCT	GATTAGAGAA	3120
TTTGCGTTTA	AAAAGATCAA	TTCTATTATG	TATAGTTATG	CTATGGTAAA	ACTCAATTCA	3180
GATAACGAAC	ATTGAAAGAT	AAAATTAAGG	ATTATTTTAT	AGAAACTATT	CTTAAAGACA	3240
AACGTGGTTA	TAAACAAAAG	CCATTACCCG	GATTGGAAAC	TAAAATACTA	GATAGTATTA	3300
TAAGATTTTA	AAAACATAAA	ATTAATAGGT	TTTTATAGAT	TGACTTATTA	TATACAATAT	3360
GGATAAAAGA	TATATATCAA	CTAGAAAGTT	GAATGACGGA	TTCTTAATTT	TATATTATGA	3420
TTCAATAGAA	ATTATTGTCA	TGTCGTGTAA	TCATTTTATA	AATATATCAG	CGTTACTAGC	3480
TAAGAAAAAC	AAGGACTTTA	ATGAATGGCT	AAAGATAGAA	TCATTTAGAG	AAATAATAGA	3540
TACTTTAGAT	AAAATTAATT	ACGATCTAGG	ACAACGATAT	TGTGAAGAAC	TTACGGCGCA	3600
TCACATTCCA	GTGTAATTAT	TGAGGTCAAA	GCTAGTAACT	TAATAGATGA	CAGGACAGCT	3660
G						3661

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:8:

 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 69 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear 	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:	
CTAGACACTT TATGTTTTTT AATATCCGGT CTTAAAAGCT TCCCGGGGGA TCCTTATACG	60
GGGAATAAT	69
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:9:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 65 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:9:	
ATTATTCCCC GTATAAGGAT CCCCCGGGAA GCTTTTAAGA CCGGATATTA AAAAACATAA	60
AGTGT	65
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:10:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 72 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:10:	
GATCAGAAAA ACTAGCTAGC TAGTACGTAG TTAACGTCGA CCTGCAGAAG CTTCTAGCTA	60
GCTAGTTTTT AT	72
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:11:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 72 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:11:	
AGCTATAAAA ACTAGCTAGC TAGAAGCTTC TGCAGGTCGA CGTTAACTAC GTACTAGCTA	60
GCTAGTTTTT CT	72

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:12:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 3659 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:12:

GATATCTGTG	GTCTATATAT	ACTACACCCT	ACCGATATTA	ACCAACGAGI	TTCTCACAAG	60
AAAACTTGTT	TAGTAGATAG	AGATTCTTTG	ATTGTGTTTA	AAAGAAGTAC	CAGTAAAAAG	120
TGTGGCATAT	GCATAGAAGA	AATAAACAAA	AAACATATTT	CCGAACAGTA	TTTTGGAATT	180
CTCCCAAGTT	GTAAACATAT	TTTTTGCCTA	TCATGTATAA	GACGTTGGGC	AGATACTACC	240
AGAAATACAG	ATACTGAAAA	TACGTGTCCT	GAATGTAGAA	TAGTTTTTCC	TTTCATAATA	300
CCCAGTAGGT	ATTGGATAGA	TAATAAATAT	GATAAAAAA	TATTATATAA	TAGATATAAG	360
AAAATGATTT	TTACAAAAAT	ACCTATAAGA	ACAATAAAA	TATAATTACA	TTTACGGAAA	420
ATAGCTGGTT	TTAGTTTACC	AACTTAGAGT	AATTATCATA	TTGAATCTAT	ATTGTTTTTT	480
AGTTATATAA	AAACATGATT	AGCCCCCAAT	CGGATGAAAA	TATAAAAGAT	GTTGAGAATT	540
TCGAATACAA	CAAAAAGAGG	AATCGTACGT	TGTCCATATC	CAAACATATA	AATAAAAATT	600
CAAAAGTAGT	ATTATACTGG	ATGTTTAGAG	ATCAACGTGT	ACAAGATAAT	TGGGCTTTAA	660
TTTACGCACA	ACGATTAGCG	TTAAAACTCA	AAATACCTCT	AAGAATATGC	TTTTGTGTCG	720
TGCCAAAATT	TCACACTACT	ACTTCTAGAC	ACTITATGTT	TTTAATATCC	GGTCTTAAAG	780
AAGTCGCGGA	AGAATGTAAA	AGACTATGTA	TAGGGTTTTC	ATTGATATAT	GGCGTACCAA	840
AAGTAATAAT	TCCGTGTATA	GTAAAAAAAT	ACAGAGTCGG	AGTAATCATA	ACGGATTTCT	900
TTCCATTACG	TGTTCCCGAA	AGATTAATGA	AACAGACTGT	AATATCTCTT	CCAGATAACA	960
TACCTTTTAT	ACAAGTAGAC	GCTCATAATA	TAGTACCTTG	TTGGGAAGCT	TCTGATAAAG	1020
AAGAATACGG	TGCACGAACT	TTAAGAAAAA	AGATATTTGA	TAAATTATAT	GAATATATGA	1080
CAGAATTTCC	TGTTGTTCGT	AAACATCCAT	ACGGTCCATT	TTCTATATCT	ATTGCAAAAC	1140
CCAAAAATAT	ATCATTAGAC	AAGACGGTAT	TACCCGTAAA	ATGGGCAACG	CCTGGAACAA	1200
AAGCTGGAAT	AATTGTTTTA	AAAGAATTTA	TAAAAAACAG	ATTACCGTCA	TACGACGCGG	1260
ATCATAACAA	TCCTACGTGT	GACGCTTTGA	GTAACTTATC	TCCGTGGCTA	CATTTTGGTC	1320
ATGTATCCGC	ACAACGTGTT	GCCTTAGAAG	TATTAAAATG	TATACGAGAA	AGCAAAAAA	1380
ACGTTGAAAC	GTTTATAGAT	GAAATAATTG	TAAGAAGAGA	ACTATCGGAT	AATTTTTGTT	1440
ACTATAACAA	ACATTATGAT	AGTATCCAGT	CTACTCATTC	ATGGGTTAGA	AAAACATTAG	1500
AAGATCACAT	TAATGATCCT	AGAAAGTATA	TATATTCCAT	TAAACAACTC	GAAAAAGCGG	1560
AAACTCATGA '	TCCTCTATGG	AACGCGTCAC	AAATGCAGAT	GGTGAGAGAA	GGAAAAATGC	1620
ATAGTTTTT	ACGAATGTAT	TGGGCTAAGA	AGATACTTGA	ATGGACTAGA	ACACCTGAAG	1680

ACGCTTTGAG	TTATAGTATC	TATTTGAACA	ACAAGTACGA	ACTAGACGGC	ACGGATCCTA	1740
ACGGATACGT	AGGTTGTATG	TGGTCTATTT	GCGGATTACA	CGATAGAGCG	TGGAAAGCAA	1800
GACCGATATT	TGGAAAGATA	AGATATATGA	ATTATGAGAG	TTCTAAGAAG	AAATTTGATG	1860
TTGCTGTATT	TATACAGAAA	TACAATTAAG	ATAAATAATA	TACAGCATTG	TAACCATCGT	1920
CATCCGTTAT	ACGGGGAATA	ATATTACCAT	ACAGTATTAT	TAAATTTTCT	TACGAAGAAT	1980
ATAGATCGGT	ATTTATCGTT	AGTTTATTTT	ACATTTATTA	ATTAAACATG	TCTACTATTA	2040
CCTGTTATGG	AAATGACAAA	TTTAGTTATA	TAATTTATGA	TAAAATTAAG	AATAATAA	2100
TGAAATCAAA	TAATTATGTA	AATGCTACTA	GATTATGTGA	ATTACGAGGA	AGAAAGTTTA	2160
CGAACTGGAA	AAAATTAAGT	GAATCTAAAA	TATTAGTCGA	TAATGTAAAA	AAAATAAATG	2220
АТААААСТАА	CCAGTTAAAA	ACGGATATGA	TTATATACGT	TAAGGATATT	GATCATAAAG	2280
GAAGAGATAC	TTGCGGTTAC	TATGTACACC	AAGATCTGGT	ATCTTCTATA	TCAAATTGGA	2340
TATCTCCGTT	ATTCGCCGTT	AAGGTAAATA	AAATTATTAA	CTATTATATA	TGTAATGAAT	2400
ATGATATACG	ACTTAGCGAA	ATGGAATCTG	ATATGACAGA	AGTAATAGAT	GTAGTTGATA	2460
AATTAGTAGG	AGGATACAAT	GATGAAATAG	CAGAAATAAT	ATATTTGTTT	AATAAATTTA	2520
TAGAAAAATA	TATTGCTAAC	ATATCGTTAT	CAACTGAATT	ATCTAGTATA	TTAAATAATT	2580
TTATAAATTT	TATAAATTTT	ААТААААААТ	ACAATAACGA	CATAAAGATA	TTTAATCTTT	2640
AATTCTTGAT	CTGAAAAACA	CATCTATAAA	ACTAGATAAA	AAGTTATTCG	ATAAAGATAA	2700
TAATGAATCG	AACGATGAAA	AATTGGAAAC	AGAAGTTGAT	AAGCTAATTT	TTTTCATCTA	2760
AATAGTATTA	TTTTATTGAA	GTACGAAGTT	TTACGTTAGA	TAAATAATAA	AGGTCGATTT	2820
TTACTTTGTT	AAATATCAAA	TATGTCATTA	TCTGATAAAG	ATACAAAAAC	ACACGGTGAT	2880
TATCAACCAT	CTAACGAACA	GATATTACAA	AAAATACGTC	GGACTATGGA	AAACGAAGCT	2940
GATAGCCTCA	ATAGAAGAAG	CATTAAAGAA	ATTGTTGTAG	ATGTTATGAA	GAATTGGGAT	3000
CATCCTCAAC	GAAGAAATAG	ATAAAGTTCT	AAACTGGAAA	AATGATACAT	TAAACGATTT	3060
AGATCATCTA	AATACAGATG	ATAATATTAA	GGAAATCATA	CAATGTCTGA	TTAGAGAATT	3120
TGCGTTTAAA	AAGATCAATT	CTATTATGTA	TAGTTATGCT	ATGGTAAAAC	TCAATTCAGA	3180
TAACGAACAT	TGAAAGATAA	AATTAAGGAT	TATTTTATAG	AAACTATTCT	TAAAGACAAA	3240
CGTGGTTATA	AACAAAAGCC	ATTACCCGGA	TTGGAAACTA	AAATACTAGA	TAGTATTATA	3300
AGATTTTAAA	AACATAAAAT	TAATAGGTTT	TTATAGATTG	ACTTATTATA	TACAATATGG	3360
ATAAAAGATA	TATATCAACT	agaaagttga	ATGACGGATT	CTTAATTTTA	TATTATGATT	3420
CAATAGAAAT	TATTGTCATG	TCGTGTAATC	ATTTTATAAA	TATATCAGCG	TTACTAGCTA	3480
AGAAAAACAA	GGACTTTAAT	GAATGGCTAA	AGATAGAATC	ATTTAGAGAA	ATAATAGATA	3540
CTTTAGATAA	AATTAATTAC	GATCTAGGAC	AACGATATTG	TGAAGAACTT	ACGGCGCATC	3600
ACATTCCAGT	GTAATTATTG	AGGTCAAAGC	TAGTAACTTA	ATAGATGACA	GGACAGCTG	3659

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:13:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 70 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:13:	
AATTAACCCG GGATCCAAGC TTCTAGCTAG CTAATTTTTA TAGCGGCCGC TATAATCGTT	60
AACTTATTAG	70
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:14:	, ,
 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 67 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear 	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:14:	
CTAGCTAGAA GCTTGGATCC CGGGTTAATT AATTAATAAA AAGCGGCCGC GTTAAAGTAG	60
AAAAATG	67
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:15:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 28 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:15:	
GTTACATATG TACAGAATCT GATCATAG	28
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:16:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 28 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:16:	
GCTAGAATTC TCTTAGTTTT TATAGTTG	28
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:17:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 18 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:17:	
AAGGTAGTAC TGGCGTCC	18
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:18:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 54 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:18:	
TTATCGCGAT ATCCGTTAAG TTTGTATCGT AATATGTTCC CTCACAATCC ACGA	54
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:19:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 26 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:19:	
TAAAAGCTTT TAATTAATTA GTCATC	26
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:20:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 26 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:20:	
TAACCCGGGC GATACAAACT TAACGG	26
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:21:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 72 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:21:	
GATCCCGGTA CCTCTAATGC TGATCATCCG AACCGCGCTG ACACTGAGCT GTACAAACCT	60
GCAAGATCAA AC	72

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:22;	
 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 25 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear 	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:22:	
GGACGCCGGT CCGGTTGTTG GCATC	25
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:23:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 112 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:23:	
GTGAGTACTT CATGGAGGTG GCCGACCTCA ACTCTCCCCT GAAGATTGCA GGAGCATTTG	60
GCTTCAAAGA CATAATCCGG GCTATAAGGA GGATCGTTTT AACTGTCATA TC	112
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:24:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 31 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:24:	
TTAGGATCCT CATATTTTTG TAGTGGCTCT C	31
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:25:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 42 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:25:	
TACACACTGC AGAGCAATGG GAACCTCAAG TTCGATCAGA TG	42
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 26:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 39 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single	

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:26:	
GAAACACGAG CTCTCCCCCA ACGCTGAGGC TTGTGATAG	39
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:27:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 155 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:27:	
GGAAGAGCTC GTGTTTCAAA CAAGCGTCCA AGGCCTTGTA CTGGGCGCCA CCATCTACTT	60
TATAGGCTTT GATGGGACTA CGGTAATCAC CAGAGCTGTA GCCGCAGATA ATGGGCTGAC	120
GGCCGGCACC GACAATCTTA TGCCATTCAA TCTTG	155
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:28:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 155 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:28:	
CCACCATGGA TCGTCACTGC TAGGCTCCCA CTTGCCGACC ATGACATCTG ATCCCCTGCC	60
TGACCACCAC TTTTGGAGGT CACTACCTCC AGTTTGATGG ATGTGATTGG CTGGGTTATC	120
TCATTGGTTG GAATGACAAG ATTGAATGGC ATAAG	155
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:29:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 26 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:29:	
GGGAGAGCTC GTGTTTCAAA CAAGCG	26
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:30:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 20 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:30:

GATATAGAAG ATACCAG

(2)	INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:31:	
	(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 17 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
	(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:31:	
AAC	ATATTTC CGAACAG	1
(2)	INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:32:	
	(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 57 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
	(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:32:	
TCC	AAGCTTT CGCGACCCGG GTTTTTATTA GCTAATTAGC AATATAGATT CAATATG	57
(2)	INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:33:	
	(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 62 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
	(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:33:	
ATCA	AAGCTTG GATCCCTCGA GTTTTTATTG ACTAGTTAAT CATAAGATAA ATAATATACA	60
GC		
121	THEODMARION FOR CRO TR NO 24	62
(2)	INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:34:	
	(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 17 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
	(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:34:	

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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A recombinant poxvirus containing therein DNA from infectious bursal disease virus in a nonessential region of the poxvirus genome.
- 5 2. A recombinant poxvirus as in claim 1 wherein said DNA codes for and expresses an infectious bursal disease virus structural protein.
 - 2. A recombinant poxvirus as in claim 2 wherein said structural protein is VP2.
- 3. A recombinant poxvirus as in claim 2 wherein said structural protein is VP3.
 - 4. A recombinant poxvirus as in claim 2 wherein said structural protein is polyprotein VP2, VP3, VP4.
- 5. A recombinant poxvirus as in claim 1 wherein the poxvirus is an avipox virus.
 - 6. A recombinant avipox virus as in claim 6 wherein the avipox virus is fowlpox virus.
- 7. A recombinant fowlpox virus as in claim 7
 20 which is selected from the group consisting of vFP115,
 vFP116, vFP147, vFP151, vFP186 and vFP209.
 - 8. A vaccine for inducing an immunological response in a host animal inoculated with said vaccine, said vaccine comprising a carrier and a recombinant
- 25 poxvirus containing, in a nonessential region thereof,
 DNA from infectious bursal disease virus.
 - 9. A vaccine as in claim 9 wherein said DNA codes for and expresses an infectious bursal disease virus structural protein.
- 30 10. A vaccine as in claim 10 wherein said structural protein is VP2.
 - 11. A vaccine as in claim 10 wherein said structural protein is VP3.
- 12. A vaccine as in claim 10 wherein said structural protein is polyprotein VP2, VP3, VP4.
 - 13. A vaccine as in claim 9 wherein the poxvirus is an avipox virus.

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- 14. A vaccine as in claim 14 wherein the avipox virus is fowlpox virus.
- 15. A vaccine as in claim 14 wherein the host animal is a chicken.

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 14 December 1992 (14.12.92); second claim 2 renumbered as claim 3, original claims 3-15 renumbered as claims 4-16; claim 1 unchanged (2 pages)]

- 1. A recombinant poxvirus containing therein DNA from infectious bursal disease virus in a nonessential region of the poxvirus genome.
- 2. A recombination poxvirus as in claim 1 wherein said DNA codes for and expresses an infectious bursal disease virus structural protein.
 - 3. A recombinant poxvirus as in claim 2 wherein said structural protein is VP2.
- 4. A recombinant poxvirus as in claim 2 wherein said structural protein is VP3.
 - 5. A recombinant poxvirus as in claim 2 wherein said structural protein is polyprotein VP2, VP3, VP4.
- 6. A recombinant poxvirus as in claim 1 wherein the poxvirus is an avipox virus.
 - 7. A recombinant avipox virus as in claim 6 wherein the avipox virus is fowlpox virus.
- 8. A recombinant fowlpox virus as in claim 7
 20 which is selected from the group consisting of vFP115,
 vFP116, vFP147, vFP151, vFP186 and vFP209.
- 9. A vaccine for inducing an immunological response in a host animal inoculated with said vaccine, said vaccine comprising a carrier and a recombinant poxvirus containing, in a nonessential region thereof, DNA from infectious bursal disease virus.
 - 10. A vaccine as in claim 9 wherein said DNA codes for and expresses an infectious bursal disease virus structural protein.
- 30 11. A vaccine as in claim 10 wherein said structural protein is VP2.
 - 12. A vaccine as in claim 10 wherein said structural protein is VP3.
- 13. A vaccine as in claim 10 wherein said 35 structural protein is polyprotein VP2, VP3, VP4.
 - 14. A vaccine as in claim 9 wherein the

15. A vaccine as in claim 14 wherein the avipox virus is fowlpox virus.

16. A vaccine as in claim 14 wherein the host animal is a chicken.

FIG. 1B

atatattigittaataaatttatagaaaaatatattgctaacatatcgtiatcaactgaattatctagtatattaaataattttataaattttataaatt 2610 TTAATAAAAAATACAATAACGACATAAAGATATTTAATTCTTTAATTCTTGAAAACACATCTATAAAACTAGATAAAAGTTATTCGATAAAGAT 2710 2720 2730 2730 2730 2740 2750 2760 2760 2760 2770 2770 2780 2790 2800 A 28 6ATAAATAATAAGGTCGATTTTTACTTTGTTAATATATGTCATTATCTGATAAGATACAAAAACACGGGGGTGATTATCAACCATCTAACGAA 3010 ATCATCCTCAACGAAGAAATAGATAAAAGTTCTAAACTGGAAAATGATACATTAAACGATTTAGATCATCTAAATACAGATGATAATATTAAGGAAATCA 3110 3120 3130 3130 3140 3150 3150 3200 TACAATGTCTGATTAGAGAATTTGCGTTTAAAAGATCAATTCTATTATGTTATGTTATGCTATGGTAAAACTCAATTCAGATAACGAACATTGAAAGAT 3210 3280 3290 3290 3290 3290 3250 3250 3260 3260 3270 3270 3280 3280 3290 3300 3200 3280 3200 3200 3200 3310 3320 3330 3330 3340 3350 3400 3400 3560 3560 3570 3380 3390 3400 3400 3400 3400 3410 3420 3430 3430 3440 3450 3460 3460 3500 340 3500 3470 3480 3480 3490 3500 3510 3520 3530 3590 3590 3590 3590 3560 3560 3570 3570 3580 3580 3590 3590 3590 3590 3600

FIG. 10

181 241 301 481 541 601 661 721 781 721 TGCCAAAATT
781 AAGTCGCGGA
841 AAGTCATTACG
961 TACCTTTTAT
1021 AAGAATACGG
1081 CAGAATTCC
1141 CCAAAAATAT
1201 AAGCTGGAAT
1201 ATCATAACAA
1321 ATGTATCCGC
1381 ACGTTGAAAC
1441 ACTATAACAA
1501 AAGATCACAT
1561 AAACTCATGA 1561 1621 1681 1741 1801 1861 1921 1981 TAACCATCGT TACGAAGAAT TCTACTATTA 2041 2101 2161 2221 2281 2341 2461 2521 2581 ATAATAATAA AGAAAGTTTA AAAATAAATG GATCATAAAG TCAAATTGGA TGTAATGAAT GTAGTTGATA AATAAATTTA TTAAATAATT TTTAATCTTT ATAAAGATAA TTTTCATCTA AGGTCGATTT ACACGGTGAT 2641 2701 2761 2821 2881 2941 AAACGAAGCT GAATTGGGAT 3001 3061 TAAACGATTT TTAGAGAATT 3121 3181 3241 ATGGTAAAAC AAACTATTCT AAATACTAGA ACTTATTATA CTTAATTTTA TATATCAGCG TCAATTCAGA TAAAGACAAA TTGGAAACTA TTATAGATTG ATGACGGATT ATTTTATAAA **TAGTATTATA** 3301 3361 3361 ATAAAAGATA TATATCAACT AGAAAGTTGA 3421 CAATAGAAAT TATTGTCATG TCGTGTAATC 3481 AGAAAAACAA GGACTTTAAT GAATGGCTAA 3541 CTTTAGATAA AATTAATTAC GATCTAGGAC 3601 ACATTCCAGT GTAATTATTG AGGTCAAAGC TACAATATGG TATTATGATT TTACTAGCTA AGATAGAATC ATTTAGAGAA ATAATAGATA AACGATATTG TGAAGAACTT ACGGCGCAT TAGTAACTTA ATAGATGACA GGACAGCTG ATAATAGATA ACGGCGCATC

international application No.

PCT/US92/06100

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(5) :C12N 7/00; C12P 21/02; A61K 39/12 US CL :435/69.3, 235.1; 424/89						
	According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC					
B. FIEL	DS SEARCHED					
Minimum d	ocumentation searched (classification system followe	d by classification symbols)				
U.S. :	435/69.3, 235.1; 424/89					
Documentat	tion searched other than minimum documentation to the	e extent that such documents are included	in the fields searched			
none						
Electronic d	lata base consulted during the international search (na	ame of data base and, where practicable	, search terms used)			
CAS ONI	LINE, search terms: poxvirus, infectious bursal disea	se virus, VP2, VP3, VP4				
C. DOC	UMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT					
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where a	opropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.			
Y	Azad et al. "Vaccines 90", published 1990 by CSH (NY), "Full Protection Against an Immunodep Antigen Produced in Yeast", pages 59-62, entire de		1, 2, 5, 6, 8			
X,P	Archives of Virology, Volume 120, issued November 1991, C.D. Bayliss et al., "A Recombinant Fowlpox Virus that Expresses the VP2 Antigen of Infectious Bursal Disease Virus Induces Protection Against Mortality Caused by the Virus", pages 193-205, entire document.					
Y	Virology, volume 161, issued October 1987, A.A. Azad et al., "Deletion Mapping and Expression in Escherichia coli of the Large Genomic Segment of a Birnavirus", pages 145-152, entire document.					
Nucleic Acids Research, Volume 14, No. 12, issued September 1986, P.J. Hudson et al., "Genomic Structure of the Large RNA Segment of Infectious Bursal Disease Virus", pages 5001-5012, entire document.						
X Furth	X Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.					
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Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No
K	Journal of General Virology, Volume 69, issued November 1988, F.S.B. Kibenge et al., "Biochemistry and Immunology of Infectious Bursal Disease Virus", pages 1757-1775, see especially page 1769.	1, 2, 5, 6, 8
r	Journal of Virology, Volume 64, No. 4, issued April 1990, J. Taylor et al., "Newcastle disease Viurs Fusion Protein Expressed in a Fowlpox Virus Recombinant Confers Protection in Chickens", pages 1441-1450, entire document.	1, 2, 5, 6, 8
	Vaccine, Volume 6, issued December 1988, J. Taylor et al. "Protective Immunity Against Avian Influenza Induced by a Fowlpox Virus Recombinant", pages 504-508, entire document.	1, 2, 5, 6, 8
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BOX I. OBSERVATIONS WHERE CLAIMS WERE FOUND UNSEARCHABLE

2. Where no meaningful search could be carried out, specifically:

Two claims were labelled as claim 2, therefore, it was unclear what applicants intended by the second claim 2. In addition, it was not clear on which claim 2 claims 3 and 4 depended. Claims 7, 9, 10, and 14 all were dependent upon themselves. Accordingly, neither they, or the claims dependent upon them, were searchable.

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